



April 11, 2012

***Via Electronic Filing***

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: *Ex Parte* Presentation**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 9, 2012, Andrew Lowenstein, President, and Gina Baxter, General Manager, both of Connected Living, Inc. ("CL"), met with Kimberly A. Scardino of the Telecommunications Access Policy Division and Garnet Hanly of the Wireline Competition Bureau.

CL offers innovative computer training, administrative tools and support to get seniors online. CL is the awardee of a U.S. Department of Commerce Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant for the program "Getting Illinois Low Income Seniors and People With Disabilities Online" and also is implementing broadband adoption programs for the Boston Housing Authority, District of Columbia Housing Authority, the Atlanta Housing Authority and other providers of low income housing as described in past comments in this proceeding.<sup>1</sup>

At the meeting on April 9, CL introduced the observations made relative to barriers to broadband acquisition and adoption as a result of the learning's from several of its demonstration projects and agreed to share data from studies that it or third party evaluators and researchers are conducting into the efficacy and outcomes of CL's (and other's) broadband adoption programs in getting seniors online, both documents included under separate cover.

CL discussed our interest in working with private sector ETC's (Eligible Telecommunications Carriers) and government entities, non-profit organizations or public/private partnerships to get un-served or underserved low income seniors online.

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<sup>1</sup> See Lifeline/Link Up Comments on Broadband Pilot Program, WC Docket Nos. 11-42, 03-109, CC Docket No. 96-45, filed by Connected Living, Inc., on August 26, 2011, and Ex Parte Presentation, WC Docket Nos. 11-42, 03-109, CC Docket No. 96-45, filed by Connected Living, Inc., on December 7, 2011.

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CL reiterated its support for broadband adoption program pilots that may be created in conjunction with Universal Service Fund reform and CL shared the results from its initial conversation with ETCs. Garnet Hanly reported that the FCC is still working out the details of a potential broadband pilot competition but that, due to statutory considerations, reiterated that the applicant pool for any potential pilot will likely be restricted to (ETCs) and their partners, such as Digital Literacy enablement providers.

In a general discussion on survey and evaluation, Andrew Lowenstein offered sample surveys (2 page and 9 page) currently in use for the BTOP-Illinois program. Those documents have been attached to this letter.

CL invited members of the FCC to attend a conference sponsored by the Benton Foundation and Connected Living, Inc., for researchers, practitioners and advocates on Getting Seniors Online currently anticipated to be held in Alexandria, VA on May 22, 2012.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS with your office. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gina Baxter

Gina Baxter

**Attachments**

cc: Andrew Lowenstein  
Garnet Hanly  
Sarah Hoit, Connected Living  
Christopher McWade, Connected Living  
Francine Jefferson, NTIA